GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:38
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2001
INTRODUCTION OF BILL TO MAKE EDUCATION A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT
SHANKERSINH VAGHELA;VUKKALA RAJESWARAMMA

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to make education a fundamental right;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to amend the Constitution of India for this purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which a bill in this connection is likely to be introduced?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND OCEAN DEVELOPME MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.38 FOI 20.11.2001 ASKED BY SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA AND DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA REGARDING INTRODUCTION OF BILL TO MAKE EDUCATION A FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) : The Constitution (Eighty-Third Amendment) Bill, 1997 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 1997 to make right to free and compulsory education for children from 6-14 years of age a Fundamental Right The Bill was referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on HRD. The Committee tabled its report in the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha on 24th November, 1997 in which it made certain suggestions regarding the Amendment Bill. Subsequently, the 165th Report of the Law Commission also looked into the issue of making elementary education free and compulsory.

Based on the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee, and the report of Law Commission, this Ministry prepared a revised Draft Constitution Amendment Bill, 2001. Government propose to withdraw the Constitution (Eighty-third Amendment) Bill, 1997 and introduce the revised Constitution (Ninety third Amendment) Bill, 2001, in the winter session of Parliament.